

rollcall no. 334. I would like to state for the record I intended to vote “no.”

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4870) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Chair, with numerous and significant reservations, I will vote for final passage of H.R. 4870, the FY2015 Department of Defense Appropriations Act. I supported this bill because it provides the means to support the brave men and women of our armed services who put their lives on the line to protect ours. The bill provides a pay raise for our troops and includes important provisions that support the missions of the Delaware National Guard and Dover Air Force Base.

That said, I disagreed with numerous policy provisions included in the bill, most notably the lack of guidance for how the Administration can use funds provided in the Overseas Contingency Operation accounts. I also remain concerned that the bill prevents the Department of Defense from taking responsible measures to cut defense spending and continues to maintain the Authorization for Use of Military Force, despite the fact that our military engagements in Afghanistan and Iraq have drawn to a close. I was also concerned that the bill prevents the transfer of detainees at the Guantanamo Bay Facility and fails to pro-

vide a comprehensive plan to close the facility. I am hopeful these deficiencies in the bill will be addressed when the House and Senate meet in conference to work out their differences.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF THOMAS E. MARTIN OF DEFUNIACK SPRINGS, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and dedicated service of DeFuniack Springs, Florida's beloved Mr. Thomas E. Martin, who passed away on June 16, 2014. Thomas Martin was a veteran, successful business owner, committed public servant, and loving family man. The entire Northwest Florida community mourns the loss of a great and compassionate man.

Born on July 27, 1927, to J.D. and Evie Jones Martin, Mr. Martin served our Nation as a member of the U.S. Army during WWII before enjoying a long and successful career as a civil servant. He retired after 30 years as the Plumbing Shop Supervisor at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Mr. Martin was also a successful small business owner, running Martin's Tire Company in his hometown of DeFuniack Springs. He took great pride in employing his neighbors, and he was also known for traveling through town to search for folks looking to work on the weekends at his small farm to help give them a small paycheck and the satisfaction that comes with a good day's work.

Mr. Martin was also an avid sports fan and a talented athlete in his own right who played

professional baseball in the minor leagues before forming the town's first semi-pro baseball team, the DeFuniack Indians, where he was both a player and manager. Thanks to his wife and three daughters, Mr. Martin was also a softball fan, and he formed the town's first girls' and women's softball leagues. His passion for the game coupled with his tireless work supporting local leagues, he was nominated by his daughter, Cindy, for Major League Baseball's "Most Valuable Dad" award, and he was selected as the "Most Valuable Dad" for the Atlanta Braves organization.

In addition to his successful careers and immense leadership in his community, Mr. Martin was also a member of First United Methodist Church of DeFuniack and greatly enjoyed the hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreational activities in and around his hometown. He was known for leading hunting trips for dignitaries and was also a great friend to all manner of animals. He often took in disadvantaged animals to provide for them a good home. To some, Mr. Martin will be remembered as a dedicated public servant and a man full of integrity and kindness. To his family and friends, he will always be remembered as a loving and devoted family man with a heart of gold.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is a privilege for me to honor the life and dedicated service of Mr. Thomas E. Martin. My wife Vicki and I extend our prayers and sincere condolences to his wife of over 65 years, Sabra; daughters, Susan, Cindy, and Toma; brother, Frank; grandchildren, Lindsey, Kyle, Tiffany, Matt, Briana, Brent, and Troy; great-grandchildren, Gunnar, Erilyn, Ashton, Loren, River, Caden, Hadley, and Zoey (grandchild-to-be); and the entire Martin family.